

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing data entry via a data input screen on a client device, comprising:

rendering source code that defines said data input screen in said client device;
defining an executable script within said source code; and
executing said executable script in response to user input,
wherein said executable script operates within said client device to render said data input screen inaccessible to prevent subsequent user input;
wherein ~~said step of~~ executing said executable script further comprises ~~the steps~~ of:

associating said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for a web page; and

rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said source code comprises a tag-based language.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein said source code defines a membrane layer at a higher z-index level than other Web page elements, and ~~said step of~~ wherein executing said executable script further comprises changing a visibility attribute of said membrane layer.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said data input screen is received from a remote server and ~~said step of~~ wherein executing said executable script is performed solely on said client device without any further processing by said remote server.

5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for preventing entries or submissions of data via an input screen displayed on a client device, comprising:
a central processing unit;
a memory;
a user input device;
a display; and
a browser adapted to render said input screen on said display,
wherein source code is provided to said browser that contains instructions that are interpreted by said browser to render said input screen inaccessible after an executable script contained within said source code is executed on said client device;
wherein said source code further contains instructions which operate to:
generate association of said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for a web page; and
render inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number.

6. (Original) The apparatus as defined in claim 5, wherein said executable code is executed in response to user input.

7. (Original) The apparatus as defined in claim 5, wherein said source code is a tag-based language.

8. (Original) The apparatus as defined in claim 5, wherein said source code defines a membrane, and wherein a visibility attribute of said membrane is changed by said executable script.

9. (Original) The apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein said membrane is defined as a layer in a cascading style sheet web page.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components comprising:

- a form definition component defining a data input screen and a data submission field;

- a style definition component defining a layer having a width and height at least as large as said data submission field;

- a function definition component responsive to said data submission field, wherein upon execution of said function definition component, said layer operates to render said data submission field inaccessible on said form;

- wherein said computer-executable components are operable to perform the steps of:

- associating said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for a web page, and

- rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number.

11. (Original) The computer-readable medium having computer-executable components as recited in claim 10, wherein said layer is initially defined as hidden, and is made visible upon execution of said function definition.

12. (Original) The computer-readable medium having computer-executable

components as recited in claim 11, wherein said layer comprises one of plural layers in a cascading style sheet web page.

13. (Original) The computer-readable medium having computer-executable components as recited in claim 10, wherein said function definition component is executed in response to user operation of said data submission field.

14. (Original) The computer-readable medium having computer-executable components as recited in claim 10 wherein said function definition component is executed solely within a client device to prevent subsequent data entry via said data input screen.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing data entry to a server computer from a client computer, comprising:
receiving a request for an exchange of data from said client computer;
defining an executable script within a source code, said executable script operating in response to a client computer input and rendering a data input screen inaccessible to prevent subsequent input from said client computer; and
providing said source code that defines said data input screen;
wherein ~~said step of defining~~ said executable script further comprises the steps of:

associating said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for a web page; and

rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 15, wherein said source code comprises a tag-based language.

17. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 16, wherein said source code defines a membrane layer at a higher z-index number than other Web page elements, ~~said step of~~ and wherein executing said executable script further comprises changing a visibility attribute of said membrane layer.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for preventing data entry to a web page comprising ~~the steps of~~:

- associating an executable script with said web page;
- permitting a first data input to said web page;
- executing, in response to said first data input, said executable script; and
- preventing data entry to at least a portion of said web page after execution of said script, wherein ~~said step of~~ preventing said data entry further comprises ~~the steps of~~:

- associating said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for said web page; and

- rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number.

Claims 19-23 (Cancelled)

24. (New) A method for preventing data entry to a web page comprising:

- associating an executable script with said web page;
- determining if said web page uses z-index numbers;
- permitting a first data input to said web page;
- executing, in response to said first data input, said executable script; and
- preventing data entry to at least a portion of said web page after execution of said script, wherein preventing said data entry further comprises:

associating said executable script with a predetermined z-index number for said web page if said web page supports using said z-index number;

associating said executable script with a division of said web page if said web page does not support using said z-index number;

rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page by rendering said division of said web page visible over said data entry elements if said web page does not support using said z-index number; and

rendering inaccessible those data entry elements associated with said web page that have a z-index number lower than said predetermined z-index number if said web page supports using said z-index number.